




***OFFICE OF THE CHAIR  
JOE A. MARTINEZ, CHAIRMAN  
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
DISTRICT 11***

# Memorandum

To: Honorable Vice-Chairman Dennis C. Moss and  
Members of the Board of County Commissioners

From: Joe A. Martinez, Chairman 

Date: July 28, 2006

Re: Affordable Housing Ad Hoc Committee (AHAHC)

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Recent media coverage regarding the Miami-Dade Housing Agency (MDHA) has highlighted allegations of mismanagement of public funds by MDHA. This coverage also alleged that public lands were conveyed and some of the public funds were allocated to private developers who, charged with building affordable housing for the neediest of our community failed to produce such housing. In light of the gravity of what has been reported, I have decided to create an Ad Hoc committee pursuant to Rule 2.01(a)(2) of the Rules of Procedure adopted by the Board of County Commissioners. The Ad Hoc committee shall be known as the Affordable Housing Ad Hoc Committee (AHAHC). The AHAHC shall be comprised of the following Board of County Commissioners:

Vice Chairman Dennis. C. Moss, (District 9)  
Commissioner Bruno Barreiro, (District 5)  
Commissioner Audrey Edmonson, (District 3)  
Commissioner Carlos Gimenez, (District 7)  
Commissioner Rebeca Sosa, (District 6)  
Commissioner Katy Sorenson, (District 8)  
Commissioner Natacha Seijas, (District 13)

Commissioner Bruno Barreiro shall serve as the Chairperson and Commissioner Audrey Edmonson shall serve as the Vice Chairperson. The Mayor shall be invited to attend and offer input during the AHAHC deliberations.

The AHAHC shall be vested with all the powers and duties set forth in Rule 4.01 of the Rules of Procedure and shall be further charged with the following duties, functions, and responsibilities:

- A. To identify, analyze, and evaluate the allegations raised and the history that gave rise to these allegations.
- B. To identify how public funds were expended and monitored by MDHA.
- C. To identify recommendations proffered by USHUD in an effort to address issues that are imperative to demonstrating the county's intention to correct this process and service those in need in an expeditious manner.
- D. To develop a plan to address the issues identified under paragraphs (a), (b), and (c) which shall include, but not be limited to, recouping public funds and recovering land conveyed to private developers who failed to construct affordable housing, establishing a system of checks and balances and recommend any other necessary structural changes.
- E. To make final findings and recommendations related to the above subjects to the full Miami-Dade Board of County Commissioners for legislative action.

The AHAHC shall provide the Miami-Dade Board of County Commissioners with a report of its findings and recommendations no later than 60 days after the first meeting of this AdHoc Committee meeting.

The creation of this committee is intended to ensure the delivery of quality and effective services to persons served by MDHA and is no way intended to supplant any law enforcement efforts related to the use of public funds by MDHA which may be ongoing.

I would ask that the Chairperson convene the first meeting of this AdHoc Committee as soon as a detailed report from the Manager is released as well as the report issued by the County's Inspector General is provided. Doing so will provide an avenue for this committee to make prudent decisions based on findings by our professional staff as well as that of the Inspector General and input from US HUD.

Again, I would like to thank Assistant USHUD Secretary Orlando Cabrera for taking an active role in assuring that Miami Dade Housing gets back on track with its mission to assist the neediest in our community and for temporarily providing USHUD professionals to facilitate this process.

If you should have any questions please call me at (305) 375-5511.

JM/jim

Cc: Honorable Mayor Carlos Alvarez  
Honorable Harvey Ruvin, Clerk of the Court  
George Burgess, County Manager  
Cynthia Curry, Señor Advisor to the Manager  
Murray Greenberg, County Attorney  
Christopher Mazzella, Office of the Inspector General